

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES (ECONOMIC & SOCIAL HISTORY)**EH2498/EH2499 - THE EUROPEAN ECONOMY 1600-1800****Aims and Objectives**

- This module aims to introduce students to some of the main themes of the development of the continental European economy in the two centuries before industrialisation.
- It will provide both an introduction to general themes and an overview of the development of the economies of the major western European powers.
- It aims to encourage students to ask questions about the nature and pattern of economic change in this period and in particular to examine ways in which different historical experiences led to differing patterns of economic change.
- It encourages students to re-examine the 'special' nature of economic change in Britain during these centuries.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:(a) Subjected related skills

By the end of the course students should have gained:

- An understanding of the broad themes of European economic development
- A knowledge and understanding of developments in individual regions of Europe and their relationship to wider patterns
- An understanding of some of the major theoretical and historical issues associated with the problems of different patterns and speeds of economic change.
- A basis on which to examine the wider significance and individuality of British experience during this period.

(b) Key Skills

By the end of the module, students should have:

- Further developed the ability to analyse complex issues critically.
- Further developed the ability to sustain an argument, written and verbal, with clarity and rigour.
- Further developed skills in the critical analysis of qualitative and quantitative historical data.
- Bibliographic skills through the preparation of bibliographies for classes and essays

Development and Assessment

This module develops and assesses the following subject-specific skills:

Skill	How developed	How Assessed
To read, analyse, and reflect critically and contextually upon historical texts and other sources materials	Preparation of primary and secondary sources for tutorials; minor assignment, and essay(s)	Minor assignment Essay(s) Examination
To develop an understanding of the varieties of approaches to understanding, constructing and interpreting the past, and of comparative perspectives on the past	Through preparation for and historiographical discussions in tutorials; written assignments	Minor assignment Essay(s) Examination
To gather and deploy appropriate evidence and data to develop and sustain historical arguments	In preparation for, and delivery of, tutorial presentations, minor assignment, and essay(s)	Minor assignment Essay(s) Examination

This module develops and assesses the following skills outlined in the University's learning and teaching strategy in the manner set out below:

Skill	How developed	How Assessed
IT	Minor assignment and essay(s)	Minor assignment and essay(s)
Written communication	Minor assignment, essay(s)	Minor assignment, essay(s), examination
Oral communication	Tutorials	

The Organisation of the Module

There will be 8 2-hour seminars/lectures and four discussion classes.

The lectures will establish and develop the broad themes and broad outlines of each topic. In the classes students will be asked:

- To develop through their reading their detailed factual knowledge of the topic
- To develop, through presentations and group discussion their broader appreciation of the major themes of the module
- To make connections between the different themes and regions covered by the module and with their study of economic change in Britain
- Through group discussion and contribution to assist each other in developing their knowledge and understanding of the period and the subject matter of the course.

Students will also write one essay (for EH2498) or two essays (for EH2998). In the essay(s) students will be expected to

- Show a broad understanding of the issues involved in the topic of the essay
- Show detailed and relevant factual knowledge and an appreciation of the views of a range of historians
- Develop and express a clear and logical argument based on an analysis of the topic concerned
- Provide, through footnotes and a bibliography, information as to the material they have consulted and cited.

Lectures

1.	Introduction: Definitions of Europe
2.	General Characteristics of the European Economy: Agriculture and its problems
3.	Long-Term variations in the European Economy: the Seventeenth Century and the Eighteenth Century
4.	Population: the evidence for population size and population change; the causes of population fluctuation and its possible consequences
5.	European Commerce: trade within Europe, Europe's commercial relationship with the world beyond Europe
6.	Production and Consumption; how industry was organised and how it changed, the markets for manufactured goods and how they were distributed
7.	Italy 1: Did Italy decline in the seventeenth century? What were the possible causes of such a decline?
8.	Italy 2: Did the eighteenth century see a revival in Italy?
9.	Spain 1: What was the Spanish Economy like in 1600? How far was the seventeenth century a period of decline? Was there an eighteenth century revival?
10.	Spain 2: Spain and America: What role did America play in the economy of European Spain? How did the economy of Spanish America change over this period, and how did these changes affect metropolitan Spain
11.	Germany 1: War and Economy in Germany; The Thirty Years War and its effects; did the war cause long-term stagnation in the German economy?

12.	Germany 2: Was there a revival in the eighteenth century?
13.	The Netherlands 1: The Miracle Economy of the Seventeenth Century: Why were the Netherlands so successful in the Seventeenth Century?
14.	The Netherlands 2: The Netherlands and the Non-European World; did the Netherlands decline in the Eighteenth Century?
15.	France 1: Europe's Largest single economy: what was the role of the state in seventeenth century France? Did the state prevent economic growth?
16	France 2; Eighteenth Century France; how prosperous was France in the Eighteenth Century? Was there a great crisis in the last years of the century?

Classes

The classes will look at the specific issues raised by each of the major states and their development. We will select a range of topics to suit the interests of the class.

Reading Lists

The following lists are intended as a guide from which to start; there are a wide range of other books and articles on all these issues and you are encouraged to use UNICORN and other bibliographic aids to supplement the lists. You should, in particular look in the recent numbers of journals in the Library.

General Reading

For all of the topics listed here, and for all the issues raised in the lectures the following general books have useful points and are worth consulting.

P. J. Musgrave	<u>The Early Modern European Economy</u>
J. de Vries	<u>The Economy of Europe in an Age of Crisis</u>
F. Braudel	<u>Civilisation and Capitalism</u>
Ralph Davis	<u>The Rise of the Atlantic Economies</u>

Topic 1: Was the Decline of Italy in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries Absolute or Relative?

F. C. Lane	<u>Venice, A Maritime Republic</u>
S. J. Woolf	<u>A History of Italy 1700-1860: The Social Constraints of Political Change</u>
D. Sella	<u>Crisis and Continuity: The Economy of Spanish Lombardy in the Seventeenth Century</u>
A. Calabria and J.A. Marino (eds)	<u>Good Government in Spanish Naples</u>
P.J. Musgrave	<u>Land and Economy in Baroque Italy: The Valpolicella 1630-1797</u>
F. McArdle	<u>Altopascio: A Study in Tuscan Rural Society</u>
G.Hanlon	<u>Early Modern Italy</u>

Topic 2: How important was America in the economic history of Spain in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries?

J. Casey	<u>The Kingdom of Valencia in the Seventeenth Century</u>
J. Lynch	<u>The Hispanic World in Crisis and Change 1598-1700</u>
H. Kamen	<u>Spain 1469-1714</u>
H. Kamen	<u>Spain in the later Seventeenth Century</u>
D.R. Ringrose	<u>Madrid and the Spanish Economy, 1560-1850</u>

J.K.J. Thomson A Distinctive Industrialisation: Cotton in Barcelona 1728-1832

Topic 3: What role did war play in the Germany economy between 1600 and 1800?

J. Gagliaro Germany under the Old Regime 1600-1790
 S. Ogilvie (ed) Germany; a new Social and Economic History, Vol II, 1630-1800
 N. G. Parker The Thirty Years' War
 A. Corvisier Armies and Societies in Europe, 1494-1789
 G. L. Soliday A Community in Conflict: Frankfurt Society in the Seventeenth and early Eighteenth Centuries
 K.Newman 'Hamburg in the European Economy, 1680-1750' in Journal of European Economic History, 14, 1, 1985, pp.57-94

Topic 4: How do you account for the success of the Northern Netherlands in the 17th century and their apparent decline in the 18th?

J. Israel Dutch Primacy in World Trade
 S. M. Schama The Embarrassment of Riches: An Interpretation of Dutch Culture in the Golden Age
 C.R. Boxer The Dutch Seaborne Empire
 J. de Vries The Dutch Rural Economy in the Golden Age
 J. L. Price Culture and Society in the Dutch Republic in the Seventeenth Century

Topic 5: Did the Military ambitions of French Governments cripple France's economic development between 1600 and 1789?

The general books all contain discussions of France's economic history during this period.

P. Goubert Louis XIV and Twenty Million Frenchmen
 S. Kaplan Bread, Politics and Political Economy in the Reign of Louis XIV
 T.J.A. Le Goff Vannes and its Region: A Study of Town and Country in Eighteenth Century France
 J. C. Riley The Seven Years' War and the Old Regime in France: The Economic and Financial Toll
 J.K.J. Thomson Clermont de Lodève, 1633-1789; Fluctuations in the Prosperity of a Languedocian Cloth-Making Town

YOU ARE EXPECTED TO CONSULT OTHER MATERIAL THAN THAT WHICH APPEARS ON THIS LIST.

COURSEWORK

Two copies of all coursework should be handed in to the Economic and Social History Department Office, Attenborough 713, before the deadline stated. One copy will be marked and returned; the second copy will be retained in the Department for possible scrutiny by the external examiner. Please ensure that you follow the Department stylesheet enclosed.

1 Minor Assignment

In the course of this module you will come across a number of more general or theoretical concepts. The minor assignment asks you to consider what you understand by these concepts and how they are relevant to the study of Early Modern economic and social history.

You should choose one of the following topics and write a brief (no more than 1,500 words) discussion of what the concept means and why, in broad terms it has been seen as being relevant to the period and issues we are considering.

You should consult a range of books, not merely historical studies of the period, but also dictionaries of the Social Sciences, encyclopaedias and so forth. If you wish to do so, a group may take a number of concepts and consider them together; if you choose to do this, you should indicate in your answer that you have done so, and how the group has chosen to divide the topic amongst its members.

Consider ONE of the following

FEUDALISM
CAPITALISM
THE MALTHUSIAN THEORY OF POPULATION
THE MARXIAN VIEW OF HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT
THE COLONIAL RELATIONSHIP
PROTO-INDUSTRIALISATION
ABSOLUTISM

2 Essays

You are required to write one (EH211E) or two (EH231E) essays for this module. You should choose your topic from the following list. If you wish to write an essay on a topic which does not appear here, you may do so, but you must discuss it with me first. You must construct a bibliography for your essay and this MUST include at least three items which do not appear on this list.

1. To what extent is it fair to call the 17th century the 'Age of Black Bread'?
2. Why was Europe more prosperous in the 18th century than in the 17th?
3. What role did population fluctuations play in the economic history of Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries?
4. Was the decline of Italy caused by the 'treason of the nobility'?
5. 'By the 18th century, the balance between Spain and her American Empire had shifted decisively; it was difficult to know which was the metropolis and which the colony.' Comment.
6. To what extent, and for what reasons, did the German economy stagnate after 1648?
7. Why, despite political disunity and a lack of natural resources, were the Northern Netherlands so successful in both the 17th and 18th centuries?
8. Is it fair to say that France should have industrialised in the 18th century but failed to do so because of the actions of her government?